

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SPAIN HAS A KING

JUAN CARLOS IS TO BE SWORN IN TODAY AT 1230 SPANISH TIME (0630 EST). AMBASSADOR STABLER OBSERVES THAT DESPITE THREATS FROM THE RIGHT THE KING HAS CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT FROM THE PEOPLE, THE CHURCH, THE APERTURISTAS, AND, TACITLY, THE MILITARY. THE AMBASSADOR FURTHER COMMENTS:

--TROUBLE IS UNLIKELY UNLESS EVENTS PROVE THAT JUAN CARLOS' GOOD INTENTIONS ARE INSUFFICIENT TO OVERCOME REKINDLED RIVALRIES.

--THE NEW KING SEEMS INCLINED TO SEEK NEW MEN TO REPLACE BOTH CORTES PRESIDENT VALCARCEL AND PRIME

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MINISTER ARIAS.

--THE FACT THAT WE HAVE CONTACTS WITH ALL NON-EXTREMIST GROUPS HAS NOT BEEN MISSED. MORE THAN MERELY WORDS, THIS STANCE EMPHASIZES OUR SUPPORT FOR EVOLUTION TOWARD A PLURALIST SPAIN THAT CAN BE LINKED WITH EUROPE IN MEANINGFUL WAYS. (CONFIDENTIAL) MADRID 8229 (EXDIS), 11/21.)

2. PORTUGAL: MODERATES NEED HELP TO SURVIVE UNTIL ELECTIONS

DESPITE INCREASING FEAR BY MODERATES THAT THE LEFT AND ITS MILITIA MAY TRY TO WREST CONTROL OF LISBON, EMBASSY LISBON DOUBTS THE COMMUNISTS WANT A SUICIDAL SHOWDOWN NOW. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE NOVEMBER 21 REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL DECISIONS MAY OPEN THE WAY TO A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND COMMENTS:

--COSTA GOMES WILL FIGHT HARD TO SURVIVE AND WILL SEEK A COMPROMISE WHICH GIVES AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO THE COMMUNISTS.

--SOARES DOES NOT WANT OUTRIGHT CONFRONTATION; SURVIVAL UNTIL THE ELECTIONS IS THE SOCIALIST GOAL.

--THE NINE MAY NOW BE SATISFIED, SINCE REPLACING OTELO AS LISBON COMMANDER WITH ONE OF THEIR COHORTS ASSURES THEM CONTROL OF ALL FOUR MILITARY REGIONS; BUT,

--ANTUNES WANTS TO BE PRIME MINISTER AND MAY PERSUADE HIS COLLEAGUES TO LET HIM REPLACE AZEVEDO, THEREBY LEADING A COALITION OF TECHNOCRATS, WHICH RETAINS THE COMMUNISTS BUT BARS THEM FROM TRUE POWER.

AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: I BELIEVE OUR INTERESTS ARE LIKELY TO BE SERVED IF THE AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT SURVIVES UNTIL ELECTIONS CONVEY FULL LEGITIMACY ON THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL PARTIES. EVEN THIS MINIMUM ORDER, HOWEVER, WILL BE DIFFICULT. IT WILL ALSO REQUIRE THAT WE KEEP OUR OWN SECRET

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EXPECTATIONS FAIRLY MODEST, WHILE CONTINUING, WITH OUR ALLIES, TO ASSIST AZEVEDO ECONOMICALLY AND OTHERWISE. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 6965 AND 6953, 11/21.)

3. MOVE FOR OAU SUMMIT ON ANGOLA GAINS MOMENTUM

OAU ASSISTANT SYG ONU TOLD EMBASSY ADDIS ABABA THAT BY NEXT WEEKEND THERE SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT VOTES TO CONVENE

A SUMMIT MEETING ON ANGOLA. HE OPINES THAT AFRICAN LEADERS RECOGNIZE THE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE OAU OF CONTINUED DIVISIONS OVER ANGOLA AND THEY BELIEVE A SUMMIT IS THE ONLY WAY TO SEEK A CONSENSUS. (CONFIDENTIAL) ADDIS 13619, 11/21.)

4. INDIA: ANTI-US CAMPAIGN HEATS UP

WITH THE APPARENT TACIT APPROVAL OF MRS. GANDHI, POLITICAL AND PRESS CRITICISM OF THE UNITED STATES IS ONCE AGAIN ON THE UPSWING IN INDIA. EMBASSY NEW DELHI HYPOTHESIZES:

--MRS. GANDHI MAY HAVE LINGERING DOUBTS ABOUT THE EXTENT OF US/PAKISTANI INVOLVEMENT IN THE RECENT EVENTS IN BANGLADESH. MORE ALARMINGLY, SHE MAY BE SETTING THE STAGE FOR FUTURE INDIAN INTERVENTION IN THAT COUNTRY.

--THE PRIME MINISTER COULD BE EMPHASIZING THE "FOREIGN ENEMIES" THEME IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY SOME NEW GOVERNMENTAL SCREW-TIGHTENING, INCLUDING PERHAPS A MOVE ON THE JUDICIARY OR A FUNDAMENTAL REVAMPING OF THE CONSTITUTION.

--CONVERSELY, MRS. GANDHI MAY BE PLANNING TO RELAX THE STATE OF EMERGENCY AND IS ATTACKING THE US TO UNDERCUT OPPOSITION POLITICIANS.

--RECENT HINTS OF HIGH LEVEL DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE US-INDIAN "DETENTE," COUPLED WITH IRRITATION OVER AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN'S UN SPEECHES AND US REFERENCES TO REEVALUATION OF BILATERAL RELATIONS OVER THE
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ZIONISM AND KOREAN ISSUES, MAY HAVE CONVINCED MRS. GANDHI THAT COURTING THE US IS NOT WORTH THE EFFORT. (SECRET) NEW DELHI 15479, 11/21.)

5. PREPARATIONS FOR EUROPEAN COMMUNIST MEETING SNAGGED?

ANALYSIS OF RECENT TASS REPORTS FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE (ECPC) EDITORIAL COMMISSION, CURRENTLY MEETING IN EAST BERLIN, LEADS EMBASSY MOSCOW TO SPECULATE THAT PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE MAY HAVE HIT AN OBSTACLE. ALTHOUGH SUBSTANTIVE REASONS FOR THE SNAG REMAIN UNCLEAR, A SECOND ECPC EDITORIAL SESSION HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 1976, DRIVING THE SOVIETS UP AGAINST THEIR OWN DEADLINE FOR THE 25TH SOVIET PARTY CONFERENCE IN FEBRUARY. (CONFIDENTIAL) MOSCOW 16749, 11/21.)

6. UNITED NATIONS

A. POSSIBLE SYRIAN PLAN TO AMEND SC RESOLUTION 242

USUN QUOTES AN EGYPTIAN SOURCE AS SAYING THAT SYRIA WILL PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION 242 TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF PALESTINIAN NATIONAL RIGHTS. THE SOURCE ALSO CAUTIONED THAT THE PALESTINIANS WILL NEVER AGREE TO NEGOTIATE AT GENEVA AS REFUGEES. USUN FEELS THE EGYPTIANS ARE PRACTICING WISH-FULFILLMENT, HOPING THE UNDOF DEBATE WILL NOT BE DIRECTED AGAINST THEM BECAUSE OF SINAI II, BUT THE MISSION BELIEVES WE SHOULD CONSIDER THE SYRIAN PLAN A REAL POSSIBILITY AND MAKE OUR VIEWS KNOWN TO CAIRO. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 6204 (LIMDIS), 11/21.)

B. UK-CARIBBEAN RESOLUTION ON BELIZE ADOPTED

THE UNGA FOURTH COMMITTEE VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY NOVEMBER 21 TO ADOPT THE UK-CARIBBEAN RESOLUTION ON THE BELIZE QUESTION. FOLLOWING THE VOTE, IN WHICH THE US ABSTAINED, A GUATEMALAN DELEGATE INFORMED USUN THAT THE GOG MAY MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST FOR US HELP IN CONVINCING THE UK TO PRODUCE A NEGOTIATING PACKAGE IN NEW YORK PRIOR TO THE PLENARY SESSION VOTE. THE BRITISH SPECULATED THAT THE NEGOTIATING PACKAGE WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED IN GUATEMALA NEXT
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WEEK WILL CONTAIN NO TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS, BUT RATHER DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC MEASURES ALONG THE LINES OF THOSE SUGGESTED BY THE UK AND THE US. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 6202, 11/21.)

7. COFFEE NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOT YET PERKING

LACK OF MAJOR PROGRESS AT THE LONDON COFFEE NEGOTIATIONS HAS DEMORALIZED MANY OF THE SMALLER PARTICIPANTS. THE US DELEGATION REPORTS THE PRODUCERS ARE HESITANT TO DISCUSS CONTENTIOUS ISSUES AND HAVE NOT YET EVEN DECIDED AMONG THEMSELVES HOW TO DIVIDE MARKET SHARES. (CONFIDENTIAL) LONDON 18002, 11/21.) KISSINGER

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